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[Telegram.]

*Plague situation at Mazatlan improving.*

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO, 24.

WYMAN, *Washington*:

Saw Liceaga to-day; plague situation Mazatlan improving.

FRANCIS,  
*Assistant Surgeon.*

NICARAGUA.

*Quarantine at San Juan del Norte against Mexican ports.*

Consul Gottschalk reports, January 30, as follows: By Presidential decree all the ports of Nicaragua are declared closed to vessels from Mexican ports, and ships arriving from other countries are compelled, whether they carry clean bills of health or not, to observe quarantine for such period as local officials may determine. The reason given for this is "that bubonic plague has been discovered at Mazatlan, Mexico." As the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua is far removed from that point, and as all American vessels calling here are on a strict schedule, owing to the perishable nature of their banana cargoes, serious annoyance will result to American commerce. I have invited President Zelaya's attention to this.

There has been no port surgeon here for several weeks, and no physician in town is available to inspect vessels. I am stating this fact on bills of health, and advising next port to use special care in inspecting.

The S. S. *Kelly* (arrived 29th) has been delayed twenty-four hours. The *Alleghany* (arrived 30th) will be delayed a like term. This short term is imposed in deference to my verbal solicitation with the governor.

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

PERU.

*Improved quarantine establishment.*

The United States minister reports, January 23, that the Peruvian Government proposes to establish a disinfection station at Callao to cooperate with the lazaretto to be built at Paita under the decree of November 7, 1902.

PORTO RICO.

*Case of suspect smallpox on U. S. S. Blake at San Juan—Smallpox at San Juan and other localities.*

Assistant Surgeon King reports, February 10, as follows: The U. S. S. *Blake*, Coast and Geodetic Survey, from Fajardo, P. R., arrived at this port yesterday, the 9th instant, with a case of suspicious sickness on board. It is a case with fever accompanied by a scarlatinal rash. The diagnosis being undetermined, the patient was this morning removed to the isolation hospital at the quarantine station to await developments, and the stateroom in which he had been isolated on board was disinfected by formalin and sealed for twelve hours. Considering that the case may be one of smallpox, with prodromal eruption, I advised the surgeon on board to vaccinate the crew. The vessel will leave to-morrow morning for Vieques Sound, the scene of their operations. The vessel will be in practical isolation, as it only